

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1- 16, 18 – 19, 21 and 24, without prejudice or disclaimer, as indicated in attached Appendix C. Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims, as amended, are respectfully requested. A complete set of claims as amended is attached at Appendix D.

IN THE DRAWINGS

The drawings, Figs. 2 and 4, have been corrected: (1) duplicate element 208B has been re-labeled as 209C; (2) element 424 has been correctly labeled; and (3) element 421 is now labeled. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added. The drawings have been corrected to overcome certain objections thereto. A Request for Approval of Changes to the Drawings is enclosed.



APPENDIX D

Complete Set of Claims as Amended

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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. (Amended) A computer implemented method for transacting an
2 intellectual property service in connection with the filing of documents and/or payment
3 of fees relative to one or more target jurisdictions, the method comprising:

4 providing a user with information representative of one or more intellectual
5 property services and one or more fees associated therewith wherein the
6 fees include one or more of:

7 official fees, and

8 service fees; and

9 in response to selection by a user of one or more of the intellectual property
10 services, initiating performance of the selected one or more intellectual
11 property services, and substantially coincident with performance thereof,
12 transacting the associated one or more fees.

1 2. (Amended) The method of claim 1,

2 wherein the intellectual property services include one or more of paying an
3 annuity or maintenance fee, making an intellectual property filing on
4 behalf of the user, and preparing and/or filing target jurisdiction- and
5 associate- specific documents for directing and/or effecting the filing
6 and/or payment thereof.

1 3. (Amended) The method of claim 1,

wherein the fee transacting includes one or more of authorizing a debit of a deposit account, supplying an invoice, and processing the fee via a payment system.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

presenting a user with one or more target jurisdictions and one or more respective associates for each of at least a portion of said target jurisdictions,

wherein the fees associated with a particular one or ones of the intellectual property services are further particularized by target jurisdiction and/or said one or more respective associates.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

automatically initiating the providing of information representative of one or more intellectual property services in response to a docket event for a particular intellectual property matter corresponding thereto.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

retrieving information characterizing an intellectual property application corresponding to one or more intellectual property services from a data store; and

calculating the associated one or more fees based on at least a portion of the intellectual property application information.

1 7. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 supplying information encoding the selected one or more intellectual property
3 services and the associated one or more fees for use in an accounting
4 system.

1 8. (Amended) A computer implemented method for transacting intellectual
2 property annuity, maintenance or renewal fee payments, the method comprising:

3 providing, responsive to docket data, information representative of one or more
4 intellectual property matters and one or more fee payments associated
5 therewith, wherein the fees include one or more of:

6 annuity,
7 maintenance or
8 renewal fee payment; and

9 in response to selection by a user of one or more of the intellectual property
10 matters and associated one or more fee payments, initiating performance
11 of the selected one or more fee payments, and substantially coincident
12 with initiating thereof, initiating a payment transaction corresponding to
13 the selected one or more fee payments between the user and an
14 intellectual property annuity, maintenance or renewal fee payment
15 service.

1 9. (Amended) The method of claim 8,

2 wherein the providing of information representative of one or more intellectual
3 property matters and associated one or more fee payments, and the
4 initiating performance of the selected fee payments are performed by the
5 intellectual property annuity, maintenance or renewal fee payment
6 service.

1 10. (Amended) The method of claim 8,

2 wherein at least the providing of information representative of one or more
3 intellectual property matters and associated one or more fee payments is
4 performed by an intermediary separate from the intellectual property
5 annuity, maintenance or renewal fee payment service.

1 11. (Amended) A method of operating an information service to facilitate fee
2 transactions in connection with the filing of documents and/or payment of fees relating
3 to intellectual property services in one or more target jurisdictions, the method
4 comprising:

5 registering for each of plural associates, at least one target jurisdiction and a
6 computer readable encoding of fees for one or more intellectual property
7 services performed by the associate therein; and

8 distributing information representative of one or more of the target jurisdiction,
9 and at least a portion of one ore more associates registered therefore and
10 corresponding fees, to a user for use in transacting at least one of the

11 intellectual property services using a respective one or ones of the
12 associates.

1 12. (Amended) The method of claim 11,
2 wherein the distributing is responsive to selection by the user of one or more of
3 the target jurisdictions and, for each selected target jurisdiction, a
4 respective one or ones of the associates.

1 13. (Amended) The method of claim 11,
2 wherein the distributing includes supplying, on a periodic basis, to the user, of
3 the computer readable encoding of fees.

1 14. (Amended) The method of claim 11,
2 wherein the distributing is encoded by a transmittal in at least one computer
3 readable medium selected from the set of a disk, CD-ROM, tape or other
4 magnetic, optical, or electronic storage medium and a network, wireline,
5 wireless or other communications medium.

1 15. (Amended) An information system for transacting fees associated with
2 intellectual property services in connection with the filing of documents and/or payment
3 of fees relative to one or more target jurisdictions, via a network including an
4 originating node and plural target nodes, the target nodes corresponding to associates
5 licensed or otherwise authorized to perform intellectual property services in one or more
6 target jurisdictions, comprising:

7 an intellectual property service portal coupled by the network to the originating
8 node and one or more of the target nodes, the intellectual property
9 service portal responsive to a selection at the originating node of at least
10 one intellectual property service, supplying the originating node with
11 information representative of one or more fees corresponding to the
12 selected at least one intellectual property service,

13 the intellectual property service portal further responsive to initiation, from the
14 originating node, of the selected at least one intellectual property service,
15 transacting the one or more fees substantially coincident with the
16 initiation thereof.

1 16. (Amended) The information system of claim 15, wherein for a particular
2 selected target jurisdiction and associate combination, the one or more fees include:
3 one or more official fees for an intellectual property filing in the particular
4 selected target jurisdiction; and
5 one or more service fees of the selected associate for performing the selected at
6 least one intellectual property service.

1 17. The information system of claim 15,
2 wherein the originating node includes a computer of a managing attorney or
3 intellectual property owner; and

4 wherein the target nodes include computers of respective associates configured
5 to electronically receive at least partial instructions concerning an
6 intellectual property filing from the managing attorney or intellectual
7 property owner via the intellectual property service portal.

1 18. (Amended) The information system of claim 15,
2 wherein the originating node includes a web browser;
3 wherein the intellectual property service portal includes a web server; and
4 wherein the selection of at least one intellectual property service, the supplying
5 of the information representative of one or more fees, and the transacting
6 of the one or more fees are achieved, at least in part, using internet
7 protocol traffic between the web browser and the web server.

1 19. (Amended) The information system of claim 15,
2 wherein the intellectual property filing portal is further responsive to registration
3 by the associates of information representative of one or more fees
4 corresponding to the associate;
5 wherein the supplied information representative of one or more fees include
6 those registered by the selected associates.

1 20. The information system of claim 15,
2 wherein the network includes one or more of a packet switched network
3 segment, a circuit switched network segment, a public network segment,

4 a private network segment, a public switched telecommunications
5 network segment, and a virtual private network.

1 21. (Amended) A computer program product encoded in a computer
2 readable medium for translating an intellectual property service in connection with the
3 filing of documents and/or payment of fees relative to one or more target jurisdictions,
4 the computer program product comprising:

03 5 selection code executable to select from amongst one or more intellectual
6 property services supported by one or more information services
7 therefore and to initiate performance of the selected one or more
8 intellectual property services; and
9 fee transaction code executable to transact one or more fees associated with the
10 selected one or more intellectual property services substantially
11 coincident with performance of the one or more intellectual property
12 services by a corresponding one or ones of the information services.

1 22. The computer program product of claim 21,
2 wherein the selection code and the fee transaction code are all executable on a
3 same processor.

1 23. The computer program product of claim 21, encoded by or transmitted in
2 at least one computer readable medium selected from the set of a disk, tape or other
3 magnetic, optical, or electronic storage medium and a network, wireline, wireless or
4 other communications medium.

- 1 24. An intellectual property filing preparation system in connection with
2 preparing to file documents and/or to pay fees in one or more target jurisdictions,
3 comprising:
- 4 means for selecting from amongst one or more intellectual property services to
5 be performed in one or more target jurisdictions;
- 6 means for initiating performance of the selected one or more intellectual
7 property services; and
- 8 means for transacting fees substantially coincident with the performance of the
9 selected one or more intellectual property services.